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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /019 W
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12172

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SU ET
SUBJ: SUDAN/ETHIOPIA RELATIONS

REF: KHARTOUM 3583

1. WE CAN WELL UNDERSTAND SUDANESE IRRITATION WITHPOUCH AND PERSONAL SEARCH PROBLEMS. THEY WERE NOT ALONE. PROBLEM OF POUCHES, HOWEVER, ENDED DEC 3 FOR ALL MISSIONS (EXACT NUMBER ON "BLACKLIST," EXISTENCE OF WHICH BECAME KNOWN IN LATE OCTOBER, WAS NEVER REALLY KNOWN, BUT WE FIGURED AT LEAST 11 OR 12 RESIDENT MISSIONS, OF WHICH 7 OR 8, DEPENDING WHETHER PDRY WAS INCLUDED, WERE ARAB COUNTRIES). DIP CORPS IS HOPEFUL SEARCHES OF LUGGAGE ARE NOW OVER AS WELL, BUT THIS MAY NOT BECOME EVIDENT FOR SOME TIME.

2. WHILE WE CAN ONLY GUESS WHY EPMG CREATED "BLACKLIST" AT ALL AFTER QUIETLY LIFTING POUCH RESTRICTIONS ON LARGE MAJORITY OF MISSIONS IN ADDIS (INCLUDING OUR-SELVES) IN LATEOCTOBER, WE ARE PLEASED FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT THAT SUDANESE ARE WILLING KEEP ON TRY-ING TO DO BUSINESS WITH ETHIOPIANS DESPITE UNHAPPY TREATMENT OF ALL DIPLOMATS IN CONNECTION WITH CURRENCY EXCHANGE.
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